

TAOTS PTO

General Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 21, 2017

Auditorium

Minutes recorded by Anna Messina, Recording Secretary

- I. 8:40 am - Call to order by Co-Presidents, Sandy Chum-Wu and Leslie Tulumello
 - November 2017 Meeting Minutes were made available and had been up on the PTO website prior to the meeting.
 - ***Approval of minutes by vote of 14 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions***
- II. **President's Report:**
 - SLT update:
 - State test score reports show that we are scoring high among our peer group and in the district.
 - New report tracks students for three years. 100% of our graduates are at or above grade level in middle school.
 - Chancellor's "Just Say Hi" Initiative is being implemented at TAOTS.
 - "No Place for Hate" Initiative will be rolled out by Ms. Butsikares.
 - Middle School Panel will be pushed to another month. For January, Ms. Sportella-Giusto arranged for Kweller to come speak to parents about Specialized High School Exams and Preparation courses.
 - January Parent Dinner – 1/18 at Pio Pio after the PTO Meeting. Sign up on Sign Up Genius.
- III. **Principal's Report:** by Mr. Defeo
 - Peer Mediator program being led by our Guidance Counselor, Ms. Konstan who has had 16 years of experience with this program. 4th and 5th graders have been selected based on their leadership roles in the classroom. Students were trained and had a "graduation" ceremony. Due to this program, students have an opportunity to resolve a conflict before an adult gets involved. Two students per grade are scheduled each day. They wear a hat to identify they are on duty. The program has gotten great reception by students. The program will grow with time.
 - Mayor DeBlasio's initiative for public schools to "Go Green" inspired the "Green Team" at TAOTS. Students will be meeting twice a month to discuss ways to reduce energy use and monitor recycling rules. "Green Team" members will wear green aprons as they monitor recycling. The school will be applying for grants for an outdoor compost station or garden or a water fountain to fill up water bottles.

IV. **Financial Report:**

- Movie night grossed over \$1,500. The net profit reflects the purchase of the popcorn machine.
- Election Day Bake Sale – net profits were over \$900.
- Pie Sale – 434 pies sold. Net income of over \$2,000.
- Fund balance – over \$65,000.
- ***Approval of November Financial Report by vote of 14 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions***

V. **Upcoming Events and Fundraisers:**

- **Gala** will be Friday, March 23, 2018 from 6:30pm-11:00pm.
- Solicitation documents are on our webpage. This includes our introduction letter and our Sponsorship letter and forms. We will, once again, sell ad space. We need lots of help soliciting!
- Theme will be Willy Wonka (Charlie and the Chocolate Factory)
- Ticket prices will be the same as last year. \$70 per person when purchased as a full table or \$75 when purchased individually. Table sales will open first through February 16 followed by individual sales till March 15th.
- Staff tickets will once again be subsidized by the PTO. \$30 ticket price for staff.
- 1/11/18 – Class Parent Meeting to discuss Gala and Class Baskets.
- Re: Online bidding – suggestion by a parent to sell a “Bidder Ticket” which allows one to bid online. PTO will consider.
- Re: Honoree - at this time there is no honoree but open for consideration.
- **Indoor Planetarium** was well received by students. 45 minute presentation for each grade. Cost was \$650 for the day. Presenter was a former teacher and coach.
- **Picture Day** - Irvin Simon received mixed reviews. Always open to considering other photographers. Has been challenging finding a company that is interested in doing business with a school as small as ours.

VI. 9:30 a.m. - Meeting adjourned.